

Washington State Patrol Media Release

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Winter Driving is Still Here

Troopers in Snohomish, Whatcom and Skagit Counties have been busy investigating over 73 collisions since the snow started to fall on area roadways yesterday afternoon. The hardest hit area in the north sound has been in the Bellingham and Lynden areas where cars were sliding off the roadways due to compact snow and ice, mainly due to speed too fast for conditions.

A semi truck slid off the road just south of Bellingham due to icy conditions closing the freeway for several hours. As a result of the collision, a 60 gallon diesel fuel spill had to be cleaned up prior to the roadway re-opening. No one was injured.

We need to remind drivers winter is still here and that our driving needs to change as weather and road conditions change. Just because we see warmer temperatures for a few days towards the end of winter, does not mean we can relax our winter driving skills.

Speed too fast for road conditions and following too close are the main reasons drivers are sliding off roads or hitting other cars. If a collision occurs, a driver faces a \$175 infraction.

Below is the number of collisions troopers responded to, per county, in the north region (Measured from 2PM Wednesday the 25th through 9AM the 26th)

Snohomish County: 15
Whatcom County: 48
Skagit County: 10

To compare, troopers only responded to 4 collisions on Monday the 24th for all three counties.

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